

City of Flagstaff Housing Authority Newsletter

**July 2021** 

#### **Inside This Issue**

- 2 Operational Changes, cont'd
- 2 Revised Child Tax Credit
- 3 Child Care for Ret'g Workers
- 3 Free Swimming Lessons
- 3 You & Your Wallet: Budgeting
- 4 Recipe: Spiced Veg BBQ Packs
- 4 NACA Hiking Series
- 4 STEAM Corner: Tynkertopia!
- 4 COVID-19 Vaccine Pop Ups!
- 5 Emergency Preparedness
- 5 Flagstaff Sustainability Events
- 5 Independence Day Parade
- 5 Get Discounts on Internet!
- 5 Book Giveaway!

#### **Contact Us**

<u>General Phone</u>: (928) 213-2730 <u>All Work Orders</u>: (928) 213-2731

#### **East Flagstaff Housing**

Jayne Wittman, Housing Spec. Email: jwittman@flagstaffaz.gov

<u>Phone</u>: (928) 213-2735 <u>Fax</u>: (928) 526-3734

Hours: M-Th 8am-4:30pm and

Fri 8am-12pm

#### **Flagstaff Housing West**

Patricia Sauers, Housing Spec. Email: psauers@flagstaffaz.gov

Phone: (928) 779-1887 Fax: (928) 779-5801

Hours: M-Th 8am-4:30pm and Fri 8am-12pm (closed 12-1pm)

#### **Clark Homes**

Amanda Thomas, Housing Spec. <u>Email</u>: athomas@flagstaffaz.gov

Phone: (928) 779-1247 Fax: (928) 779-2175

Hours: M-Th from 8am-6pm

(closed 12pm-1pm) & Fri 8am-12pm

# **CFHA & Clark Homes Offices Opened**And Other Operational Changes

All CFHA Offices have reopened in a limited capacity effective June 21, 2021. We will be limiting the number of people allowed in the lobby at any given time. To save time when visiting, and to help our office admit those who must be seen, we ask that you do the following:

A secure, locked drop box is now located outside each office or attached to the Siler Office mail slot. Please place rent payments in the drop box. If you wish to receive a receipt please attach a note to the payment. If you have a balance due or a credit, a receipt will be sent to you. Make sure checks and money orders show your name and address; please write these so they can be easily read.

A rack containing Change Reports and Applicant/Tenant Statements will be placed outside each office to be accessible without entering the office. Please drop all paperwork in the secure drop box. If there is a need to copy requested verification please come inside for assistance.

If you need to speak to your Specialist, but have not been sent an appointment please call or email the Specialist rather than coming to the office. Please do not come to the office if you are symptomatic (fever, coughing, etc.).

Annual Recertifications will return to an in office appointment following return of requested paperwork. An appointment will be sent following receipt of the paperwork. This appointment will not be optional.

Interim Recertifications (for changes) will continue to be completed by mail. However, if paperwork is not returned by the deadline, an appointment will be sent instead of a second notice. An appointment may also be requested if this is your preference. Please also remember to report income decreases by the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month to ensure decreases take effect the following month.

In office appointments for household members turning 18 will be resumed.

#### Office Hours

#### Main (Siler Homes) Office:

8:00 am-4:30 pm Monday-Thursday 8:00 am-12:00 pm Friday

#### **Brannen Homes (West) Office:**

8:00 am-4:30 pm Monday-Thursday 8:00 am-12:00 pm Friday Closed 12:00-1:00 pm

#### **Clark Homes Office:**

8:00 am-6:00 pm Monday-Thursday Closed 12:00-1:00 pm, Closed Fridays Clark Homes Neighborhood Network:

Will be announced soon

#### **Rent Collection Policy Information**

CFHA has been waiving late fees, accepting partial payments, entering into repayment agreements, has not counted late payments toward the three (3) late payment policy, and has not pursued non-payment terminations since April 2020. Please

Continues on Page 2

Page 1

## **Operational Changes**

Continued from Page 1

understand that we have not been legally obligated to do this since the CDC Moratorium is set to expire on June 30, 2021. At this time we anticipate returning to the approved rent collection policy in September 2021. Please do not allow rent to build up to a point where it will not be possible for it to be paid, which will result in termination of tenancy. Please be aware that there is no "rent forgiveness." If your income has gone down contact your specialist to discuss a rent adjustment. If you are two or more months behind or if you will have trouble paying any past due amount, contact your specialist to make an arrangement to repay the past due amount in installments.

Please be aware that AZ DES is now offering rental and utility assistance. CFHA has already registered as a Landlord. You may apply for the assistance at DES Emergency Rental Assistance Program (era.azdes.gov). If you need assistance with this process please contact Kurt Aldinger at kaldinger@flagstaffaz.gov or (928) 213-2736.

#### **Maintenance News**

Please continue to call in all work orders to (928) 213-2731. It is not necessary to call more than once. All routine Work Orders are now done by appointment only, so please be sure to include a call back number in your message. Please also be aware that no work orders will be performed when there are minors who are home with no adult present

There is currently a serious material shortage for much of the materials needed by maintenance. Our contractors are also experiencing labor shortages. This may lead to a longer wait than is usual for some repairs to be made. This shortage has especially impacted window replacement. It is currently taking two months or more for broken windows to be replaced. Your patience is appreciated.

Parts used in repairs for the storm doors at Siler and Brannen Homes are no longer available, nor are comparable replacement doors available. Because of this we can no longer repair the storm doors. Storm doors that are damaged will be removed and cannot be replaced, so please be careful not to damage them.

Annual Inspections have been completed on all homes for 2021. Inspections may resume October 2021.

"The cause of freedom is not the cause of a race or a sect, a party or a class—it is the cause of humankind, the very birthright of humanity."

ANNA JULIA COOPER, A VOICE FROM THE SOUTH

## Child Tax Credit & the American Rescue Plan

The American Rescue Plan's (ARP) expansion of the Child Tax Credit supplements the incomes of low- to moderate-income families. See <a href="IRS.gov/childtaxcredit2021">IRS.gov/childtaxcredit2021</a> for details.

- → Credit has increased to \$3,600 for children under 6 and to \$3,000 for children 6-17.
- → 17 year olds are now covered.
- → Credited amounts may be made through advance payments during 2021 allowing families to receive financial assistance in 2021.

The IRS will establish an online taxpayer portal so you can update relevant data for mid-year payment adjustments, such as the birth of a child in 2021.



## Child Care for Returning Workers

Beginning June 1, 2021, the DES Child Care Administration will provide three months of child care assistance for parents and guardians with children who return to work after receiving unemployment benefits.

To be eligible for <u>Child Care for Returning Workers</u> assistance, an individual must:

- → Be a parent or guardian in need of child care assistance for their children ages 12 and younger.
- → Have filed an initial claim for unemployment benefits in Arizona.
- → Receive an unemployment benefit payment for the benefit week ending May 8 or May 15, 2021.
- → Currently be employed full-time or part-time.
- → Earn \$25/hr or less at a new job

Eligible individuals can apply for <u>Child Care for</u>

<u>Returning Workers</u> assistance through DES at

<u>bit.ly/3vb3jXE</u> or <u>des.az.gov/services/child-and-family/child-care/child-care-returning-workers-program</u> between June 1 and September 6, 2021.

As part of the application, the parent/guardian must select a DES approved child care provider, listed at <a href="https://www.azccrr.com">www.azccrr.com</a> or 1 (800) 308-9000. When searching for DES approved child care providers, individuals can click on the provider name to ensure that DES is listed under Fund Source.

## Flagstaff Aquaplex:

Free Summer Swim Lessons

June 8th through August 31, Flagstaff Residents can take advantage of free swimming lessons. Sessions are separated by age (all times are pm):

#### **Tuesday-Saturday Schedule**

12:00 - 12:30: Parent and Tot

12:35 - 1:05: Preschool A

1:10 - 1:40: Preschool B

1:45 - 2:15: Level 1

2:20 - 2:50: Level 2 & Level 3

2:55 - 3:25: Parent & Tot, Preschool A

3:30 - 4:00: Preschool B

4:05 - 4:35: Level 1

4:40 - 4:35: Level 1

For more information, text (928) 853-2560 or email AQSwimlessons@flagstaffaz.gov.

#### You & Your Wallet:

## Setting a Household Budget

The income and expenses of each household are unique, but establishing a budget can help keep your family's spending on track while you work toward your financial goals. This is especially valuable if you are returning to work or receiving more income from the expanded Child Tax Credit.

#### **How to Create a Budget:**

- 1. **Be honest with yourself.**Recognize your income and expenses, whatever they may be. A good budget starts with honesty.
- Gather your financial papers. Gather the documents you use for applying or recertifying. These documents will tell you your income and bank statement will tell you your expenses.
- 3. Calculate your income. Total your net income (income after taxes and benefits are paid) from paychecks, social security, child support, selfemployment, or anything else. Or, check your Family Worksheet for gross income, but be sure to subtract any payments that come out of paychecks to get your net income.
- 4. **List monthly expenses.** Common expenses include rent, car payments, insurance, groceries, utilities, entertainment, toiletries, childcare, bus fare, gas, loan payments, and savings.
- 5. Which expenses are fixed and which are variable? Fixed expenses are the mandatory payments that typically stay the same; such as: rent, car payments, and childcare. Variable expenses include groceries, gas, entertainment, and gifts. Categorize different expenses and total each category for the last three months to see how much and where you're spending.
- Compare income and expenses. Expenses (including savings) should be less than your income, otherwise you're building up debt.
- 7. Adjust your expenses. Where can you save to balance your budget? If you have more income, how much can you save or use to pay off loans?

Next month, we'll talk about budgets that can help you reach your financial goals. Source: the balance, thebalance.com/how-to-make-a-budget-1289587.

## Recipe: Spiced Veg BBQ Packs

This is a great side dish that can be prepared for a BBQ or multiplied for a large cook out!

## **Ingredients**, Prepares 4 Servings

#### Potato Packs

3 large red potatoes 1 tbsp olive oil 2 cloves garlic, minced 1 tsp paprika

2 tbsp sundried tomatoes, chopped

1/2 tsp salt 1/4 tsp pepper

#### Veggie Packs

2 cups mixed vegetables, chopped (peppers, onion, asparagus, mushrooms, etc.)

1 tbsp olive oil
8 small mozzarella balls
1/2 tsp oregano
1/4 tsp red chili flakes
4 basil leaves, chopped
1/2 tsp salt
1/4 tsp pepper

## Directions

- Preheat grill to medium-high heat. Toss together each pack of ingredients separately in a foil packet.
- 2. Add potato packs to the grill..
- After 20 minutes, flip the potato packs and add veggie packs to the grill; cook all packs for 10 more minutes.
- 4. Take both packs, open (They'll be hot!), and toss in a large bowl, stirring altogether. Then serve!

Source & Photo: <u>thegirlonbloor.com/spiced-vegetable-</u> potato-bbg-packs

## **NACA Hiking Series**

Native Americans for Community Action is hosting a hiking series! Pre-registration is encouraged but not required. All are welcome! Drink plenty of water, wear sunblock, and appropriate clothing. All hikes begin at 7:30 am at the trailhead.

- → Schultz Creek Trail No. 152, July 31 with the NACA Family Enrichment Camp
- → Picture Canyon, August 28
- → Lockett Meadow, September 25

For more information, call (928) 773-1245 ex 221 or email nacawellnesscenter@nacainc.org.

### **STEAM Corner:** Tynkertopia!!!

Tynkertopia, a STEAM Community Center, will be opening soon in the Siler Homes Community Center at 3330 E Elder Drive. They will offer activities and challenges to develop creativity and inquiry in kids aged 1-18. Watch their website (<u>Tynkertopia.org</u>) for news. To volunteer or ask a question, please call Dr. Alice at (928) 326-3400.

Tynkertopia will have a number of openhouses to introduce community members to their offerings. Watch for announcements, schedule of open-houses and open hours in the front window of their building.



# **COVID-19 Vaccinations and Vaccination Pop Up Events**

Everyone 12 years of age and older are now eligible for COVID-19 vaccinations. In addition, CFHA developments will be hosting Coconino County Health & Human Services vaccination pop ups! All are welcome to stop in for first vaccination doses, free of charge and no appointment needed, at one of these events (see included flyer for more info):

- → Siler Homes Activity Center, 3330 E Elder Drive, July 6th, 4:00-6:00 pm
- → Cogdill Center at Brannen Homes, 301 S Paseo Del Flag, July 7th, 4:00-6:00 pm
- → Clark Homes Office, 980 N Thorpe Rd., July 8th, 4:00-6:00 pm

For more vaccination information:

- → (928) 679-7300 COVID-19 Information Line
- → Coconino.az.gov/2547 COVID-19 Vaccine Page
- → Coconino.az.gov/2580 Vaccination Locations
- → CDC.gov/vaccines/covid-19

# READY, SET, G

Expect emergency officials to use these keywords during fire and flood events:

- 1. Get Ready Take personal responsibility and prepare your family before the threat is obvious. Assemble emergency supplies, plan escape routes, and talk to your family.
- 2. Be Set Pack necessities (clothing, toiletries, medicines) and check your emergency items. Know how to receive and stay aware of the latest news from local media, the fire department, and safety officials.
- 3. Go! When needed, evacuate! Follow your personal action plan, adhere to local jurisdiction's evacuation processes.

Learn more at ein.az.gov/ready-set-go.

## Flagstaff Sustainability Events

Join Flagstaff Sustainability Program Saturday, July 10, 2021 from 10am-2pm at Joe





C. Montoya Community and Senior Center for a Fix It Clinic Extravaganza! Let a volunteer fix your broken household item for free! Also there, Tynkertopia will be hosting a geocaching event for kids; kids will need a smart phone and a sense of adventure to join! They will also be accepting crafting and office supply donations for their creation space. The Hazardous Products Center will be on hand to recycle CFLs, aerosol cans, and batteries! For an appointment to get an item fixed, call Maggie at (928) 213-2144.



#### **Upcoming Watershed Clean Ups!**

Help keep litter out of Flagstaff's waterways! Upcoming clean up dates are: Thursday, July 8th, 3pm at the

empty lot on Soliere, west of Country Club Dr. and Thursday, July 29<sup>th</sup>, 3pm at the back entrance of the Huntington Walmart, 2601 E Huntington Dr.

Bring sturdy shoes, sun protection, and a refillable water bottle. The Sustainability Program will supply trash pickers, disposable gloves, and trash bags. All participants will be entered into a prize drawing at the end of the series! For more information, call (928) 213 -2152 or email Marissa.molloy@flagstaffaz.gov.

## Independence Day Parade: July 3rd

The Flagstaff Independence Day Parade will follow the usual route around Historic Downtown Flagstaff. This year, the parade is Saturday, July 3.

#### **Independence Day Parade**

Saturday, July 3 9:00 am-11:00 am



The route starts at Elm & Beaver, heads south down Beaver, left at Aspen and on to San Francisco back to Elm. Celebrate safely and responsibly!



The Federal Communications Commission has launched a temporary program to help families and households struggling to afford Internet service during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Emergency Broadband Benefit provides a discount of up to \$50/month for broadband service for eligible households and up to \$100 discount to purchase hardware. Enroll through a participating broadband provider - fcc.gov/ emergency-broadband-benefit-providers - or directly with the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) using an online or mail in application -GetEmergencyBroadband.org.

For more info, call **(833) 511-0311** or visit **fcc.gov/** broadbandbenefit. Mail-in applications in English and Spanish are available at the Siler Office.

Suddenlink and Centurylink are two Internet Service Providers in the Flagstaff area that are participating. You can reach EBB specialists:

→ CenturyLink: 1 (800) 767-9905

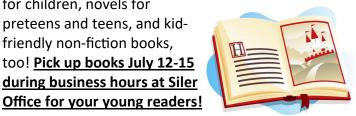
→ Suddenlink: **1 (877) 694-9474** 

This is not an endorsement of either business.

## **Book Giveaway!**

Thanks to Flagstaff Family Food Center and Kitchen, the CFHA has books to give away! We have books for children of all ages, including short story collections

for children, novels for preteens and teens, and kidfriendly non-fiction books, too! Pick up books July 12-15 during business hours at Siler



## Your Story Could be Featured in Next Month's Newsletter!

If you have news of accomplishments, original artwork, poetry, community group news, recipes, or if you just want to see something specific on the next newsletter, we want to hear from you! Drop off a letter at the Siler Homes office or send an email to caleb.alexander@flagstaffaz.gov.

Bulk trash pickup should be placed curbside by 6:00 am on the Monday of your collection week.

# **July 2021**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Trash Pickup Clark Homes, Crestview, and Cedar  Yard Watering: None	Trash Pickup All Sunnyside Scattered Sites Recycling Pickup Brannen and Verde Watering: Odd #s	Trash Pickup Siler, Brannen, Steves, Alta Vista, Lockett, and Verde Watering: Even #s	Recycling Pickup Clark Homes, Cedar, and Crestview Watering: Odd #s	Recycling Pickup Siler, Lockett, Alta Vista, Steves, and all Sunnyside Scattered Sites Watering: Even #s
June 28	June 29	June 30	1 Public Housing Rent Due Clark Homes Rent Due	COVID-19 VACCINE
5 City Offices Closed 4th of July Observed Bulky Trash Pickup: Brannen & Verde	6 SHAC Vaccine Pop Up, 4-6pm Clark Late Rent Reminders Mailed	7 Brannen Homes/ Cogdill Vaccine Pop Up, 4-6pm	8 Clark Homes Office Vaccine Pop Up, 4-6pm	9 Public Housing Late Rent Reminders
12	13	14	15	16 < 7/15 Last day to turn in LIPH Recert. Packets for October by 8am
19 <u>Bulky Trash Pickup:</u> Clark Homes, Crestview, & Cedar	20	21	22	Last day to report changes to insure rent decrease
26 <u>Bulky Trash Pickup:</u> Siler, Greenlaw, & Scattered Sites	27	28	29	Last day to turn in Clark Recert Packets



